

CLAIMS

Sub 3 5 1. Electro-optical connector module comprising a connection part, at least one optical transmitter circuit and/or optical receiver circuit and at least one electro-optical converter for respectively converting electrical signals into optical signals or vice versa, **characterised in that** the module further comprises at least two substantially flat and substantially parallel electrically insulating sheets on which the transmitter circuit and/or receiver circuit and the converter are mounted.

10 2. Electro-optical connector module according to claim 1, comprising at least one optical transmitter circuit, at least one optical receiver circuit and at least two electro-optical converters for respectively converting electrical signals into optical signals and vice versa, wherein the optical transmitter circuit and a first converter are mounted on a first sheet and the optical receiver circuit and a second converter are mounted on a second sheet.

15 3. Electro-optical connector module according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the sheets are connected by means of a flexible sheet material.

20 4. Electro-optical connector module according to claim 3, which comprises at least three substantially flat and substantially parallel electrically insulating sheets that are substantially square or rectangular and wherein the first and the second sheet are connected to adjacent sides of the third sheet by means of a flexible sheet material.

25 5. Electro-optical connector module according to claim 3 or 4, wherein a component for optical input and/or output is provided on the connecting flexible sheet material, preferably opposite the connection part, and wherein the connecting flexible sheet material can also comprise a rigid part.

6. Electro-optical connector module according to any one of the preceding claims, which comprises a shielding.

7. Electro-optical connector module according to 5 any one of the preceding claims, wherein the connection part comprises a housing of an insulating material for accommodating one or more contact elements and wherein the sheets are attached to the said housing.

8. Electro-optical connector module according to 10 claim 7, wherein the housing comprises building blocks to which a sheet is attached.

9. Method of making an electro-optical connector module comprising a connection part and at least two substantially flat and substantially parallel electrically insulating sheets that are connected by means of a flexible sheet material, which method comprises the steps of mounting 15 at least one optical transmitter circuit and/or optical receiver circuit and at least one electro-optical converter for respectively converting electrical signals into optical signals or vice versa on the sheets, folding the sheets and fixing the position of the sheets with respect to one another.

10. Method according to claim 9, wherein the connection part comprises a housing of an insulating material 20 for accommodating one or more contact elements, which housing comprises building blocks and wherein at least some of the building blocks are attached to corresponding sheets prior to the folding of the sheets.

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